

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDE-00 CIAE-00 EUR-12 H-01 INR-10
IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05
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P 191741Z MAY 78
FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2854
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 3 MBFR VIENNA 0270

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR
SUBJ: MBFR: DATA QUESTIONS FOR MAY 23 INFORMAL SESSION

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE TEXTS OF THE QUESTIONS ON DATA WHICH WILL
BE INTRODUCED BY USDEL IN THE MAY 22 AHG
MEETING FOR USE OR POSSIBLE USE AT THE MAY 23 INFORMAL SESSION.
BEGIN TEXT OF DATA QUESTIONS:

(QUESTIONS ON EASTERN DATA: CLARIFICATION OF TERMS)

1. TO CONFIRM OUR UNDERSTANDING OF HOW SOVIET GROUND FORCE PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN DIVIDED BETWEEN THE TWO CATEGORIES OF PERSONNEL IN MAJOR FORMATIONS AND OTHERS, WE NEED TO CLARIFY OUR UNDERSTANDING OF CERTAIN TERMS EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES HAVE USED TO REPLY TO OUR EARLIER QUESTIONS.
2. OUR FIRST SET OF QUESTIONS CONCERNS EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES' USE OF THE TERMS QUOTE SMALL UNITS AND SUBUNITS UNQUOTE.
3. ON APRIL 4, AMBASSADOR TARASOV SAID THAT PERSONNEL OF QUOTE SMALL UNITS AND SUBUNITS UNQUOTE SUBORDINATE DIRECTLY TO THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE GROUP OF SOVIET FORCES IN THE GDR HAD BEEN SECRET

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INCLUDED BY THE EAST IN THE SECOND CATEGORY.

4. AMBASSADOR TARASOV ALSO SAID AT THAT MEETING THAT BY THE TERM QUOTE SUBUNIT UNQUOTE EASTERN REPS MEANT SUBUNITS OF QUOTE PLATOON, COMPANY, BATTALION, OR ARTILLERY BATTALION TYPE OR THEIR EQUIVALENT UNQUOTE.

5. LATER, ON APRIL 14, AMBASSADOR STRULAK SAID THAT WHEN THE EAST USED THE TERM QUOTE SMALL UNIT UNQUOTE THEY HAD IN MIND QUOTE ORGANIZATIONS OF BATTALION SIZE UNQUOTE.

6. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING, THEREFORE, THAT ALL OF THE PERSONNEL OF THE GROUP OF SOVIET FORCES IN THE GDR WHOM THE EAST HAS COUNTED IN THE SECOND CATEGORY ARE IN SMALL UNITS AND SUBUNITS OF BATTALION SIZE OR SMALLER AND NOT IN UNITS LARGER THAN BATTALION SIZE. IS THIS CORRECT?

7. ANOTHER AREA WHICH IS UNCLEAR TO US CONCERN THE TYPES OF UNITS EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES HAVE REFERRED TO AS QUOTE BRIGADES UNQUOTE.

8. ON APRIL 12, AMBASSADOR TARASOV SAID QUOTE ALL BRIGADES SUBORDINATE TO THE HEADQUARTERS OF SOVIET FORCES IN THE GDR UNQUOTE HAD BEEN INCLUDED UNDER MAJOR FORMATIONS.

9. ON APRIL 18, IN ANSWER TO A QUESTION FROM THE U.S. REPRESENTATIVE, AMBASSADOR TARASOV CONFIRMED THAT THE ONLY PERSONNEL OF THE GROUP OF SOVIET FORCES IN THE GDR WHO HAD BEEN COUNTED IN MAJOR FORMATIONS WERE THE PERSONNEL OF SOVIET ARMIES, THE PERSONNEL OF THE SOVIET ARTILLERY DIVISION IN THE GDR, AND THE PERSONNEL OF QUOTE ALL SURFACE-TO-SURFACE MISSILE BRIGADES AND ANTI-AIRCRAFT SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE BRIGADES UNQUOTE. AMBASSADOR TARASOV CONFIRMED THAT ALL OTHER PERSONNEL OF THE

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GROUP OF SOVIET FORCES IN THE GDR HAD BEEN COUNTED IN THE FIGURES FOR THE SECOND CATEGORY.

10. THEREFORE, IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT WHEN AMBASSADOR TARASOV SAID QUOTE ALL BRIGADES UNQUOTE SUBORDINATE DIRECTLY TO THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE GROUP OF SOVIET FORCES IN THE GDR HAD BEEN COUNTED UNDER MAJOR FORMATIONS, HE WAS IN FACT REFERRING ONLY TO SURFACE-TO-SURFACE AND SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE BRIGADES. IS THIS CORRECT?

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11. AS REGARDS THE EAST'S FIGURES FOR PERSONNEL OF THE GDR, POLAND, AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN MAJOR FORMATIONS, WE ASKED ON APRIL 14 QUOTE ARE ALL PERSONNEL OF ALL BRIGADES COUNTED IN THE FIGURES FOR GROUND FORCE PERSONNEL IN MAJOR FORMATIONS OF THOS COUNTRIES UNQUOTE.

12. IN HIS REPLY, AMBASSADOR TARASOV REFERRED TO PERSONNEL OF BRIGADES QUOTE THE WEST HAD MENTIONED IN ITS QUESTION UNQUOTE.

13. WE DID NOT, HOWEVER, REFER TO SPECIFIC TYPES OF BRIGADES IN THIS QUESTION, BUT TO ALL BRIGADES OF THE FORCES OF THOSE THREE COUNTRIES.

14. ON THE OTHER HAND, IN OUR QUESTIONS JUST PRECEDING THAT ONE, WE DID ASK SPECIFICALLY ABOUT SOVIET SURFACE-TO-SURFACE MISSILE BRIGADES AND SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE BRIGADES.

15. THEREFORE, WHEN AMBASSADOR TARASOV SAID QUOTE BRIGADES OF THE TYPE WHICH THE WEST HAD MENTIONED IN ITS QUESTION HAD, IN THE CASE OF THOSE THREE EASTERN COUNTRIES, BEEN COUNTED IN FIGURES FOR PERSONNEL IN MAJOR FORMATIONS UNQUOTE, IT WAS NOT CLEAR TO US WHETHER HE REFERRED ONLY TO SURFACE-TO-SURFACE MISSILE BRIGADES AND SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE BRIGADES, OR TO OTHER TYPES OF

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BRIGADES ALSO FOUND IN THE GROUND FORCES OF THOSE THREE COUNTRIES.

16. WE WOULD LIKE EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES TO CLARIFY THIS POINT FOR US.

17. ON APRIL 14, WE ASKED IN WHICH CATEGORY THE EAST HAD COUNTED THE PERSONNEL OF QUOTE SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE UNITS UNQUOTE WHICH WERE SUBORDINATE NEITHER TO DIVISIONS NOR TO SOVIET ARMIES IN THE GDR.

18. IN HIS ANSWER, AMBASSADOR TARASOV REFERRED TO QUOTE

SURFACE-TO-IR BRIGADES UNQUOTE. WE ARE NOT CERTAIN WHETHER AMBASSADOR TARASOV'S STATEMENT ANSWERS OUR SPECIFIC QUESTION.

19. SPECIFICALLY, WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF THERE ARE ANY SURFACE-TO-AIR UNITS WHICH ARE SUBORDINATE NEITHER TO DIVISIONS NOR TO SOVIET ARMIES IN THE GDR, AND WHICH THE EAST DOES NOT DESIGNATE AS QUOTE BRIGADES UNQUOTE.

20. IF SO, IN WHICH CATEGORY HAVE THESE BEEN COUNTED?

21. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT THERE ARE IN THE GROUP OF SOVIET FORCES IN THE GDR A NUMBER OF TANK UNITS WHICH ARE NOT PART OF DIVISIONS. WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IN WHICH CATEGORY THE PERSONNEL OF THESE UNITS HAVE BEEN COUNTED.

BEGIN TEXT:

(CONTINGENCY PAPER ON POLISH FORCES)

QUESTIONS ASKED OF EAST BUT NOT YET ANSWERED (INFORMAL APRIL 14, 1978)

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QUESTION #1

AMBASSADOR TARASOV ALSO SAID IN ANSWER TO OUR QUESTION ON PERSONNEL OF POLISH UNITS OF TERRITORIAL DEFENSE THAT SUCH PERSONNEL WERE CALLED UPON TO SERVE QUOTE PERIODICALLY UNQUOTE IN THE UNITS FOR TERRITORIAL DEFENSE.

-- IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING FROM THIS THAT THESE PERSONNEL DO NOT PERFORM THEIR ENTIRE PERIOD OF ACTIVE SERVICE IN A SINGLE CONSECUTIVE PERIOD. INSTEAD, AFTER SOME INITIAL PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE FOLLOWING CONSCRIPTION, THEY ARE ALLOWED TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMES, AND ARE SUBSEQUENTLY CALLED UP FOR SPECIFIC TIME PERIODS IN ORDER TO ACCOMPLISH SOME NATIONAL ECONOMIC TASKS UNTIL THEIR FULL PERIOD OF OBLIGATION IS COMPLETED. IS THIS UNDERSTANDING CORRECT?

QUESTION#2

IS IT THE CASE THAT THE ONLY PERSONNEL WHOM THE EAST HAS EXCLUDED FROM ITS FIGURES ON THE GROUNDS THAT THEY ARE IN THE QUOTE POLISH UNITS FOR TERRITORIAL DEFENSE UNQUOTE ARE THOSE POLISH PERSONNEL WHO SERVE ON THIS PARTTIME BASIS?

1. IF EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES DO NOT ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS IN THE MAY 30 SESSION, WESTERN REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD REMIND

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THEM THAT THE WEST IS INTERESTED IN HEARING A RESPONSE.

2. IF THE EAST DOES RESPOND TO BOTH THESE QUESTIONS BY SAYING "YES", WESTERN REPRESENTATIVES CAN DRAW ON THE ATTACHED CONTINGENCY QUESTIONS.

3. IF EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES DO ANSWER THE QUESTION IN SOME WAY OTHER THAN WITH AN UNQUALIFIED YES, WESTERN REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD ASK CLARIFYING QUESTIONS TO ELUCIDATE OBVIOUS AMBIGUITIES IN THE EASTERN RESPONSE BUT SHOULD NOT USE THE ATTACHED CONTINGENCY QUESTIONS.

POSSIBLE SITUATION

EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES GIVE AFFIRMATIVE REPLY TO THE TWO UNANSWERED WESTERN QUESTIONS (ATTACHED) REGARDING PARTTIME PERSONNEL OF POLISH UNITS FOR TERRITORIAL DEFENSE.

SUGGESTED WESTERN QUESTIONS

1. AS EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES ARE AWARE, WE HAVE BEEN HAVING SOME DIFFICULTY IN UNDERSTANDING PRECISELY WHICH PERSONNEL THE EAST HAS EXCLUDED FROM ITS FIGURES ALTOGETHER ON THE GROUNDS

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THAT THEY ARE QUOTE PARTTIME PERSONNEL OF POLISH UNITS FOR TERRITORIAL DEFENSE UNQUOTE.

2. THE ANSWERS EASTERN REPRESENTATIVES HAVE NOW PROVIDED TO OUR QUESTIONS REGARDING THE QUOTE PARTTIME UNQUOTE STATUS OF THESE PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN HELPFUL IN CLARIFYING THIS MATTER FOR US.

3. TO COMPLETE THE PICTURE, WE WOULD LIKE TO CONFIRM OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE NATURE OF THE UNITS IN WHICH SUCH PERSONNEL ARE EMPLOYED.

4. FIRST, WE NOTE THAT ON MARCH 15, 1977, THE POLISH REPRESENTATIVE TOLD US THAT THE POLISH UNITS OF TERRITORIAL DEFENSE WERE QUOTE CONSTRUCTION UNITS OF CENTRAL AND VOYEVODSTVO--THAT IS TO SAY TERRITORIAL--SOBORDINATION, FULFILLING CONSTRUCTION ASSIGNMENTS FOR THE NEEDS OF THE CIVILIAN ECONOMY, THAT IS, CONSTRUCTION OF ROADS, RAILWAYS, AND OTHER GENERAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS UNQUOTE.

5. ON APRIL 12 OF THIS YEAR, AMBASSADOR TARASOV AGAIN DESCRIBED THESE PERSONNEL AS QUOTE ASSIGNED TO CONSTRUCTION, ROAD, AND ROALWAY UNITS UNQUOTE.

6. ON THIS BASIS, THEN IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT THE PERSONNEL WHOM THE EAST HAS EXCLUDED ON THE GROUNDS THAT THEY ARE PARTTIME PERSONNEL OF POLISH UNITS OF TERRITORIAL DEFENSE ARE ASSIGNED TO RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION UNITS AND ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION UNITS. IS THIS CORRECT?

7. IS IT CORRECT THAT THESE PERSONNEL ARE EMPLOYED IN ALL RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION UNITS AND ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION UNITS ASSOCIATED WITH THE GROUND FORCES OF POLAND?

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8. IF SO, WE ASSUME THAT, IN THE CASE OF ALL RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION UNITS AND ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION UNITS ASSOCIATED WITH THE POLISH GROUND FORCES, THE EAST HAS INCLUDED IN ITS FIGURES THE PROFESSIONAL CADRE PERSONNEL OF THOSE UNITS, AND HAS EXCLUDED ALL CONSCRIPT PERSONNEL OF THOSE UNITS ON THE GROUNDS THAT THEY ARE PARTTIME PERSONNEL OF THE POLISH UNITS FOR TERRITORIAL DEFENSE. IS THIS CORRECT?

9. IS IT ALSO CRRECT THAT RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION UNITS AND ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION UNITS ARE THE ONLY TYPES OF UNITS TO WHICH SUCH PART-TIME PERSONNEL OF POLISH UNITS OF TERRITORIAL DEFENSE PERSONNEL ARE ASSIGNED?

10. IS IT ALSO CORRECT THAT ALL PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO ALL OTHER

UNITS, SUBUNITS, AND FORMATIONS OF THE POLISH GROUND FORCES
ARE ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY PERSONNEL SERVING ON A FULLTIME--AS
OPPOSED TO A PARTTIME--BASIS, AND THAT ALL OF THESE PERSONNEL
HAVE THEREFORE BEEN COUNTED IN THE EAST'S FIGURES?

11. IS IT ALSO CORRECT THAT IN THE SOVIET FORCES IN THE AREA
AND IN THE FORCES OF THE GDR AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA THERE ARE NO
PERSONNEL EQUIVALENT TO THE PARTTIME PERSONNEL OF THE
POLISH UNITS FOR TERRITORIAL DEFENSE.

12. IS IT THEREFORE CORRECT THAT ALL PERSONNEL OF RAILROAD
CONSTRUCTION UNITS AND ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION UNITS IN THE
AREA BELONG TO FORCES OF THE USSR, THE GDR, AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA
HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IN EASTERN FIGURES?

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